

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00660 111444Z
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-07 DODE-00 /035 W
-----112141Z 125497 /75-70

R 111354Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
SECSTATE WASHDC 5178

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0660

CAPETOWN FOR AMBASSADOR BOWDLER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR ZA
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING CLEARANCES BY
PRETORIA MILITARY AIRCRAFT

REF: (A) USDAO 0101 MAR 77 091000Z MAR 77;
USDAO 0111 MAR 77 110830Z MAR 77 (NOTAL);
(B) LUSAKA 0641

1. REFTELS (A) REQUEST EMBASSY APPLY FOR OVERFLIGHT AND
LANDING CLEARANCES ON MARCH 21 AND 24 FOR THE ATTACHE AIRCRAFT
FROM PRETORIA. YOU ARE UNDOUBTEDLY AWARE OF THE HISTORY OF SUCH
REQUESTS. THE GRZ HAS REFUSED TO ACT UPON THEM UNTIL THE LAST
MINUTE AND ONLY APPROVED THEM AFTER CONSTANT INTERVENTIONS
BY THE EMBASSY. THIS WAS TRUE EVEN WHEN ASST. SECRETARY SCHAUFLE
AND SENATOR PERCY WERE PASSENGERS. REQUEST FOR SIMILAR FLIGHTS
BY OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL AS PRIVATE FLIGHTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA
HAVE ENCOUNTERED SIMILAR PROBLEMS. TO GIVE ONE EXAMPLE, ANGLO
AMERICAN HAD CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY GETTING LANDING PERMISSION
FOR ITS PLANE A FEW WEEKS AGO BRINGING TOP EXECUTIVE STAFF FOR
A BOARD MEETING HERE IN ZAMBIA.

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2. AS YOU ARE ALSO AWARE, WE HAVE RECENTLY HAD SOME PROBLEM
WITH PANAM'S APPLICATIONS FOR OVERFLIGHT ON ITS CARGO RUN
BETWEEN JOHANNESBURG AND KINSHASA.

3. AT THE MOMENT WE ARE IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE FOREIGN
OFFICE ON THE SHABA INVASION AND HAVE JUST REQUESTED EMERGENCY
LANDING RIGHTS FOR CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT WHICH MAY BE EVACUATING

AMERICANS FROM THE AREA. WHILE WE ARE GETTING FULL COOPERATION FROM THE ZAMBIANS, THEY ARE VERY CAREFUL WITH REGARD TO SUCH CLEARANCES.

4. A REQUEST MADE AT THIS TIME TO THE GRZ FOR OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING CLEARANCES FOR US ATTACHE AIRCRAFT TO KINSHASA COULD WELL BE CONFUSED WITH THE SHABA MATTER IMPLYING US INVOLVEMENT AND MIGHT RESULT IN A REFUSAL, ESTABLISHING AN UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT.

5. YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THIS WITH YOUR ATTACHE WHO MIGHT CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF POSTPONING THE FLIGHT FOR THE TIME BEING. LOW

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Message Attributes

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